



## **Siam Legal International Reports Thailand's Lemon Law Moves Closer to Enactment**

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Siam Legal International, a full-service law firm with more than 22 years of experience assisting foreign nationals in Thailand, is advising consumers, expatriates, and foreign residents to familiarize themselves with Thailand's proposed lemon law following a significant legislative development on June 24, 2026, when the House of Representatives formally accepted the draft Liability for Defective Goods Act for legislative review, bringing the bill one step closer to enactment.

The proposed law introduces a fundamental shift in how defective product disputes are handled in Thailand. Under the current framework, consumers who discover a defect after purchase are generally required to prove that the issue existed at the time of sale, a process that can be difficult, time-consuming, and frequently unsuccessful. The draft bill reverses this burden of proof. If a product develops a defect within a specified period after purchase, the defect will be presumed to have existed at the time of delivery unless the seller can prove otherwise. This change brings Thailand's consumer protection framework significantly closer to international standards and is designed to make warranty claims more practical and enforceable for ordinary consumers.

The bill provides four possible remedies depending on the circumstances of each case: repair, replacement, price reduction, or contract termination. These protections would apply regardless of the buyer's nationality, meaning tourists, expatriates, and long-term foreign residents would all be covered when purchasing goods in Thailand. In practice, however, foreign buyers face additional challenges when dealing with defective products in Thailand, including language barriers, unclear or untranslated warranty terms, and difficulty navigating negotiations with sellers or manufacturers. Understanding the remedies available and acting quickly when a defect is discovered are critical steps for foreign consumers seeking to protect their interests under any version of the proposed law.

"This bill addresses a real gap in Thailand's consumer protection framework that has frustrated foreign buyers for years," said Rex Baay, Operations Manager at Siam Legal International. "The shift in burden of proof is the most significant change because it removes the most common obstacle consumers face, which is proving something negative about a product's condition at the moment they bought it. For expatriates and tourists purchasing high-value goods in Thailand, understanding how these protections work in practice will matter considerably. A full breakdown of what the proposed law means for consumers in Thailand is available in Siam Legal's Thailand lemon law update.

Consumers who purchase defective products in Thailand while the law moves through the legislative process are advised to document defects immediately with photographs or video, contact the seller as soon as possible in writing, and retain all receipts, invoices, and warranty documentation. Written confirmation of any repair attempts or refusals should be requested and preserved. Complaints about unresolved defective product disputes can be filed with Thailand's Office of the Consumer Protection Board for further investigation. The draft law is still moving through the legislative process, and the final scope and implementation details may change before enactment, meaning the current consumer protection framework remains in effect until formal passage and gazette publication.

Siam Legal International is a full-service law firm with more than 22 years of experience assisting foreign nationals in Thailand, with offices in Bangkok, Chiang Mai, Phuket, and Pattaya. The firm provides comprehensive legal support across consumer protection, litigation, immigration, property transactions, and business law.

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## **Siam Legal International**

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